

DEPARTMENT OF **RESOURCES**

NEW FutureBeef PROGRAM TO BENEFIT NORTHERN TERRITORY BEEF PRODUCERS

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A new partnership between the NT Department of Resources (DoR), agriculture agencies in Queensland and Western Australia and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) has been launched at *BeefWeek 2012* in Rockhampton, setting a new direction for the delivery of beef extension services across northern Australia.

Trudi Oxley, DoR's Senior Pastoral Extension Officer, says FutureBeef underpins the national beef production research, development and extension strategy and represents an exciting new era in the way beef industry research & development is extended to producers across the Northern Territory and northern Australia.

"The FutureBeef program will see coordinated extension projects covering priority themes of reproduction, grazing land management, nutrition and growth, and animal welfare" Trudi said.

"Extension projects will be rolled out under the 'FutureBeef' brand through the efficient delivery of targeted and timely information to support the productivity and profitability of northern beef producers.

"Territory producers can benefit from a broad range of interactive tools and educational resources made possible through a co-investment approach to beef extension, while maintaining the current DoR services to Territory beef producers, including access to extension officers.

"Webinars, training workshops, field days, producer demonstration sites, facilitated producer groups, e-bulletins and electronic publications are all accessible to producers through FutureBeef" Ms Oxley said.

The new beef industry website www.futurebeef.com.au/ is a highlight of the program and represents a one-stop shop for producers seeking information and tools to support beef enterprise development.

"I strongly encourage Northern Territory beef producers to visit the FutureBeef website and take advantage of the wealth of information and resources available to them and their business" Ms Oxley said.



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Other new products accessible via the new website include a FutureBeef DVD, summarising northern beef production publications and reports, and the recently published *Weaner management in northern beef herds*, a compilation of the latest research, demonstration and practical knowledge available in northern Australia.

The FutureBeef Program for Northern Australia will focus on:

- aligning services to RD&E priorities to help businesses respond faster and more effectively
- delivering combined investment in extension and training that results in practical tools, management options and information
- helping producers to make better business decisions in beef breeding and reproduction, grazing land management, nutrition and growth and business management
- assisting producers to tap into the latest information via new technologies including webinars, YouTube videos and online learning
- providing pathways for professional development by enabling producers to access innovative and relevant workshops and courses.

For more information on the program visit www.futurebeef.com.au/



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Department of Agriculture and Food

